

Appl. No. 10/802,339
Response Dated May 16, 2006
Reply to Office action of February 22, 2005

140272-1

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-12, 14-18, 32 and 33 remain pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-9, 15-18, 32 and 33 have been rejected. Claims 11 and 13 have been objected to. Claim 13 has been canceled, and claims 1 and 14 have been amended.

Claims 1, 5, 6, and 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chen. Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 13. Claim 13 has been held objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 1, 5, 6, and 32 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Shibayama. Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Nimberger. Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Krohn. Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen and Krohn in further view of McQueen. Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen and Krohn in further view of Betzner. Claim 16 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen and Krohn in further view of Shibayama. Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Fukaya. Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Kurano. Claim 33 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Shibayama.

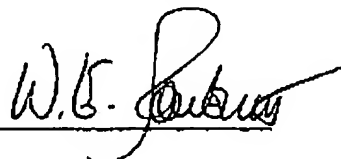
Claims 2-4, 7-9, 15-18 and 33 all depend from claim 1. As noted above, claim 1 has been amended to add subject matter from claim 13, indicated as allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-4, 7-9, 15-18 and 33 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of these claims is requested.

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In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the present patent application, the Examiner can call Applicant's attorney, William Powell, at telephone number (518)-387-4530.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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